

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
----- 042561

P R 251252 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2117

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 07281

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, XF, UNSC, UK, EG

SUBJECT: SC MEETING ON ME: SUGGESTED NEXT STEP

SUMMARY: BRITISH SUGGEST ADJOURNMENT SHOULD BE USED BY
USG AND EGYPT TO AGREE ON DEBATE'S OUTCOME, WHICH WOULD
THEN BE RATIFIED BY SC IN BRIEF SESSION. FCO'S PARSONS
GAVE US HIS IDEAS ON ITS POSSIBLE CHARACTER
(LANGUAGE ALONG LINE OF JUNE 1970 ROGERS INITIATIVE)
AND NEXT PHASE OF POSSIBLE USG- EGYPTIAN DIALOGUE.
END SUMMARY

1. FCO'S PARSONS TOLD US LATE FRIDAY JUNE 22 THAT
ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR USG AND
EGYPT TO THRASH OUT SOME AGREED OUTCOME WHICH WOULD
BE " RUBBER STAMPED" IN BRIEF RECONVENING OF SC. HE
SAID IT IS SILLY FOR BRITISH OR OTHERS TO BE ACTIVE AS
MEDIATORS WHEN USG AND EGYPT CAN DO THIS DIRECTLY.

2. WE ASKED IF HE HAD TALKED TO THE EGYPTIANS YET. HE
SAID HE HAD NOT, BUT BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO
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WOULD BE SPEAKING ALONG THAT LINE WHEN HE SAW ZAYYAT
AT LATTER'S REQUEST ON SATURDAY, JUNE 23.

3. WE ASKED IF PARSONS HAD ANY INDICATION EGYPTIANS
HAD DROPPED THEIR PREREQUISITE OF A PLEDGE FOR FULL
ISRAELI TERRITORIAL WITHDRAWAL. PARSONS REPLIED WE
SHOULD NOT TAKE EGYPTIANS ALL THAT SERIOUSLY. ZAYYAT
TALKED AS IF HE HAD A SC RESOLUTION ALL WRITTEN OUT
ALONG "TRADITIONAL" LINES FOR A ME DEBATE. HE WOULD
PROBABLY FALL BACK ON THAT IF HE COULD GET NOTHING MORE
CONSTRUCTIVE. BUT HE HAS PROVED HE IS INTERESTED IN
CONSTRUCTIVE RESULT TO DEBATE. EGYPTIANS MIGHT SETTLE
FOR CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THEY WANT.

4. WHEN WE ASKED FOR HIS IDEAS, PARSONS SAID HE HAS
LONG FELT THAT LANGUAGE SIMILAR TO THAT IN JUNE 1970
ROGERS INITIATIVE MIGHT BE USEFUL AGAIN AT THIS
JUNCTURE. MAKING IT CLEAR HE IS NOT TALKING OF 1969
LANGUAGE BUT OF "PROCEDURAL" 1970 LANGUAGE, HE REPEATED
THAT THIS WAS A BRILLIANT PIECE OF DRAFTING AND IS ONLY
LANGUAGE SINCE RES 242 ITSELF WHICH HAS BEEN PUBLICLY
ACCEPTED BY BOTH ARABS AND ISRAELIS. HE THOUGHT IT
WORTH A TRY. WE SAID WE WOULD PASS SUGGESTION TO
DEPARTMENT.

5. WHEN WE SOUNDED HIM OUT ON WHERE US AND EGYPT COULD
GO ONCE ME DEBATE IS PAST, HE SAID TWO THINGS
ARE NEEDED. MOST IMPORTANT IS CONTINUING US- EGYPTIAN
DIALOGUE IN PRIVATE, ON CONDITIONS FOR EGYPTIAN
NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL. (HE SAID HE WAS AWARE USG
DESIRED NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES THEMSELVES,
NOT A ROLE OF INTERMEDIARY IN SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS).
COVERING THE REAL ACTION EGYPTIANS NEED SOME OVERT
ACTIVITY, TO WHICH THEY CAN POINT IN DOMESTIC EGYPTIAN
CONTEXT. RELAUNCHING OF JARRING WOULD PROVIDE THAT.
HE THOUGHT IT LESS LIKELY OR DESIRABLE THAT SYG WALDHEIM
BE ASKED TO DEVOTE GREAT DEAL OF PERSONAL TIME TO ME,
THOUGH IF EGYPTIANS WANTED SOME DEMONSTRATIVE GESTURE
SYG COULD PROBABLY PROVIDE IT AND THEN LET JARRING
CONTINUE.

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6. WE ASKED WHETHER EGYPTIANS LIKELY TO BACK DOWN ON
THEIR SUBSTANTIVE REQUIREMENTS. HE SAID ANSWER APPEARED
TO LIE IN CLOSER EXPLORATION OF DISTINCTION BETWEEN
CONTROL AND SOVEREIGNTY OVER TERRITORY. HE THOUGHT IT
MAY JUST BE POSSIBLE EVEN TODAY THAT ISRAEL COULD
ACCEPT TO TALK ABOUT CONTROL WITHOUT CLAIMING
SOVEREIGNTY OVER FORMER EGYPTIAN TERRITORY. CONTROL

COULD BE WITHOUT FIXED TIME LIMIT, PENDIND REAL PEACE
SETTLEMENT THAT ISRAELIS DESIRE.

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7. PARSONS SAID ZAYYAT IS STEADFASTLY PURSUING HIS
GOAL OF CUTTING EGYPTIAN- ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP OFF FROM
LARGER PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, TO FACILITATE ITS SEPARATE
SOLUTION (SEE SEPTTEL).

8. PARSONS EXPECTED BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO MAKE POINT
TO ZAYYAT, AS PARSONS HAD TOLD MINISTER SAMIR AHMED
HERE, THAT IT IS STUPID FOR EGYPT TO GET ITSELF INTO
SAME STANDOFF ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH US AS IT IS ON
NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL. THERE MAY BE SOME-
THING TO AHMED' S RETORT THAT MINISTER KHALIL IS NOT
THE MAN TO NEGOTIATE WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. IN
THAT CASE EGYPTIANS SHOULD FIND APPROPRIATE EMISSARY.
PARSONS WONDERED OUT LOUD WHAT HAS BEFALLEN MOHAMMED
RIAD' S STANDING WITH SADAT SINCE OTHERWISE HE WOULD
SEEM TO BE RIGHT KIND OF MAN FOR SUCH MISSION.

COMMENT: PARSONS WAS OBVIOUSLY PRIMED FOR OUR MEETING
(WHICH WAS INDIRECTLY AT HIS REQUEST) AND EXPECTS USG
REPLY. IT IS LIKELY BRITISH WILL APPROACH US ALONG
SAME LINES IN WASHINGTON AND PERHAPS NEW YORK TOO.

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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